



California Department of Veterans Affairs

News For Veterans

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NEWS FROM THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

June 30 Data Security Issue Update

STOLEN COMPUTER EQUIPMENT RECOVERED

WASHINGTON -- On Thursday, June 29, 2006, Veterans Affairs Secretary R. James Nicholson announced that law enforcement authorities have recovered the laptop and external hard drive stolen in early-May from a VA employee's home.

"I'm relieved to learn the stolen computer equipment has been recovered, and I applaud law enforcement for their tireless efforts in this case," Secretary Nicholson said. "This is very good news for our veterans and active duty military personnel, and I want to assure those whom we serve that VA remains committed to implementing reforms that will make the Department the 'gold standard' in the area of information security."

According to the FBI, a preliminary review of the equipment by computer forensic experts determined that the database remains intact and has not been accessed since it was stolen. A thorough forensic examination of the recovered computer equipment is underway, and the results will be shared once the investigation is completed.

VA continues to operate a call center that people can contact to get more information as it becomes available. That toll free number is 1-800-FED INFO (1-800-333-4636). The call center is operating from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm (EDT), Monday-Saturday as long as it is needed.

http://www1.va.gov/opa/data/Data_Security_Issue_Update.asp

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